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SELECTIONS  
FROM THE  
VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS  
PUBLISHED IN THE  
PUNJAB, NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, OUDE,  
AND THE  
CENTRAL PROVINCES,

From the 24th to the 29th of February, 1868.

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THE *Gwalior Gazette*, of the 19th of January, contains the usual amount of "camp news," including an account of the *Sirimuth poojah*, a religious ceremony, in which the Maharajah and the *Sirdars* of Gwalior took part, &c., &c.

The *Bhiddia Bilas*, of the 24th of January, mentions on the authority of a friend at Lahore, that "two prisoners in the jail managed to undermine the wall, and although there were many guards over the jail, none of them knew what was going on, and the prisoners contrived to escape." The writer thinks it likely that the prisoners took advantage of a heavy shower of rain, when the guards were collected in one place owing to the storm ; and then effected their escape. Search was being made for them, but up to writing, no clue had been attained.

The *Kaleid Ummed*, of the 25th of January, publishes stale intelligence from Muscat.

Under the heading "Loodiana," it is stated that sickness has been so general at Kurba Noor Mahil, in the Jullundur district, that whole families have died, and houses have been

completely emptied ; the writer adds, that " in some houses out of ten people not one remains." This mortality is said to be chiefly among the Hindoos, and that those of other castes continue well ; therefore, the writer adds, " it is not known what great crimes the Hindoos have committed, that this calamity has befallen them. Some of the people have left their homes, and gone to Jullunder and Umritsur ; in Loodiana all is well."

The news from Delhi is, that all is peaceable ; but that a Brahminee bull, which " the Hindoos, with their usual sagacity, turned loose on the *killa maidan*, (fort grass-plot) was grazing, when two drunken soldiers began to tease him ; the animal ran at them, and gored one so severely that death resulted, while his companion was also badly wounded. The Police seized the bull and brought him to the *Sirkar*, who ordered, that in return for the blood of the soldier, the animal should be killed ; and this was accordingly done."

Under the heading " Cabul news," it is said that " an order in the name of Utha Mahomed Khan Khakwannee, Cabul Agent at Peshawur, was sent by the Commissioner of Peshawur from Murree, directing him to hold himself in readiness to proceed to Cabul, in consequence of the Ameer having sent for him," &c., &c.

" Sirdar Abdool Rhymen Khan, with twenty thousand men, horse and foot, accompanied by Artillery, have been sent to Bulkh, to fight with Shere Ali Khan, who is said to have only eight thousand men, and fifteen guns."

The *Scientific Society's Journal*, of the 31st of January, contains the usual amount of matter, in Oordoo and English.

The *Lawrence Gazette*, of the 31st of January, publishes Cabul news, as usual, in the form of a diary ; apparently taken from some other paper. The arrival of Sirdar Azeem Khan,

son of Azim Khan, with his army, is noticed; the Ameer of Cabul is said to have received him with much show of affection, and took him to the Beebee Murwurud, where they remained until evening. The letter of Mahomed Surwur Khan from Turkistan, is mentioned, as referring to the great enmity existing between Abdul Rhyman and Ismail Khan, which had led to a battle, in which the former chief had been wounded; and Ishmail had joined Shere Ali with his troops. The writer gave it as his opinion that this was a mere report got up by some enemy; as, if there was any truth in it, something more positive would have confirmed it. Upon which, the Ameer wrote to Surwur Khan that Abdul Rhyman and Ishmail Khan had gone on peaceably to Turkistan. On the same day, Mirza Sajid, spy of the English Government, sent two men, with the intention of their reaching Turkistan; and they had arrived at Cabul, as they would remain at Kurum with the Mirza. The Pundit Munphool's people were much searched for, but no trace of them could be found. Syud Meer Khan had arrived at Cabul with his servants; he had an interview with the Ameer, and stated that Shere Ali Khan had robbed him of all his property, and also his shop, &c., &c. The Ameer told him that when Abdul Rhyman Khan has taken Turkistan, compensation will be given in such a way as to satisfy him, &c., &c. The rebel Turkistanees had taken Abdul Rhyman to Turkistan. The report of the murder of Sirdar Wully Mahomed Khan, brother of Sirdar Faiz Mahomed Khan, who was imprisoned at Candahar, is alluded to, as doubtful.

The *Moofeed-ool Anam*, of the 30th of January, publishes the following, as "an article worthy of the consideration of Government." "Notwithstanding the interest displayed night and day by Government for the welfare of the public; and notwithstanding that the orders issued to the Members of Council and Governors are to the effect that all work shall be properly done; it is wonderful, that in the Tirhoot District, indigo is cultivated to such an extent as to cause serious in-

jury to the people ; the people are always discontented, and famine prevails. Mr. Cecil Beadon took the blame of it gratis ; but no one sends this news to the Members of Council : viz., that this is the great cause of complaint and loss to the *ryots* and zemindars, and in the first class *khets* (fields) indigo is sown ; because these good fields are not available for the cultivation of grain, or marketable produce, the people are denied the benefits they would otherwise derive from the land." The writer goes on to say, that it is a "pity that the Commissioner of the Famine Fund, should come to Tirhoot, and yet not make some more beneficial settlement" ; and he adds, that "encouragement and improvement in the cultivation of indigo daily goes on ; and that if the Members of Council would introduce some rule for the purpose of counteracting this evil, it would be a good thing, and the *ryot* and zemindar would be freed from such oppression."

The *Nusseem Jounpore*, of the 28th of January, does not call for special notice.

The *Suhale Punjab*, of the 29th of January, referring to the Abyssinian expedition, and the country, says that from what is gleaned in the shape of news from that place, it appears that the King (Theodorus) will have to pay dearly for his folly and short-sightedness to the British, and that in doing so the war will soon be brought to a close. The remainder is chiefly what has already appeared in English papers, and translated into Oordoo ; given as news.

The *Ukbar Alum*, of the 30th of January, publishes an article giving the Editor's opinion regarding the cause of increase in the number of rebels and *budmashes* (bad characters.) The writer says, that one cause is the number of criminals who are allowed to escape, because they either bring false witnesses, or the charges against them, through insufficiency of evidence, fall to the ground. "For instance," he goes on to say, "any person charged with a crime, notwithstanding that the plaint,

iff may declare that he saw the accused committing the crime with which he stands charged, gets off, because he is able to collect a few bad characters like himself, to swear in Court that he was absent from the spot at the time. There is an old saying, that the pickpockets give evidence in favor of their brothers, the thieves ; and the Court, considering their evidence correct, releases the criminal. Again, if a person is known to steal in another person's house, and the owner cannot bring witnesses to prove it, the case is dismissed. In short, the two words *waji sabut* (true cause) and *rudad*, (real circumstances,) if acted upon, generally set free criminals, who are criminals in every sense of the word. The character of a man is not enquired into, or considered, and the case is dismissed upon the evidence of made-up witnesses. All this has the effect of emboldening criminals ; for if one sees that he can so easily escape, he soon becomes worse, and loses all fear and respect for the *hakim*. Again, even when punishment is awarded, it is trifling, when it consists of only imprisonment for six months or a year ; the criminals soon get over it, and no trace of the effects of it remains on their minds. The punishment is awarded by a *hakim*, according to the Penal Code ; and as it is there limited, so according to the same rules, no less punishment for a crime than that which is therein stated should be awarded. If one *hakim* awards punishment, and this is remitted in appeal, as is often the case, should any one try to get him further punishment from higher authority, he cannot succeed. And, as a defendant has power to appeal before higher authority in a criminal suit, so the plaintiff ought to be allowed the same privilege. To be brief, until these defects are remedied, the administration of justice must be faulty."

The *Adebe Hind*, of the 31st of January, the *Rahnoomai Punjab*, of the 31st, and the *Bhiddia Bilas*, of the 24th, do not contain anything calling for special notice.

The *Rampore L'kbar*, of the 24th of January, referring to the desire of Government to put a stop to large assemblages at

fairs, &c., upon sanitary grounds, says, that in the writer's opinion, "there are two great reasons against carrying out the measure; first, that the Hindoos will be prevented from performing their religious ceremonies, which is quite against the declared intention of Government, inasmuch as they profess not to interfere with the religion of any party; and secondly, the Government will suffer loss to the extent of thousands of rupees." The writer is further of opinion, that the idea that these great gatherings produce cholera, is a false one.

The *Karnama* is quoted, concerning the case of the Dewan Kulwunt Rai, of Puttiala. The editor remarks: "wonderful God! when any person commits a fault, the *Sirkar* (Government) orders that he be sent either to Bithoor or Benares, and the people of those places are led astray by mixing with such people; the city gets a bad name; and fraud and deceit become general. Therefore, if for such persons an island, or some other suitable place were provided, the people of other places would not have bad names given them, but would be saved from the evils thereof."

The *Rampore Ukbar*, of the 31st of January, after extracts and old news, publishes the following, under the heading "Blame." "It causes us much grief to learn that the Maharajah of Jeypore objects to give certain land for Railway purposes; for instance, the land surrounding *Kundez*, which he considers sacred; but in this he is not to blame, and he is unjustly blamed; because in the Jeypore and Rajpootana States, there is generally land in the gift and power of a great tribe of Brahmins; and with this tribe the chiefs or rulers do not like to interfere."

The report that the ex-Nawab of Tonk has appointed Nusseer-ood-deen Khan, who went to England, as Vakeel for the ex-King of Oude, to be his Agent, and to proceed to England in that capacity, is alluded to.

The *Mujm-ool Bharain*, of the 30th of January, refers to the case of the Chief of Baroda, who is said to have appointed a new Dewan without the sanction of Sir Seymour Fitzgerald ; and now it is said that the Maharajah, without giving the requisite notice, sent to England for six guns, which were confiscated on their arrival at Bombay. The writer says :—“ on hearing of this, the Government of Hind at once showed its displeasure by administering a reproof ; but in consequence of the fault having been confessed, the Governor-General ordered that the money expended by the Maharajah should be restored to him ; the guns, however, remaining under attachment.”

The Zemindars of Champarun are said to be much discontented, because all the best lands are taken from them for the purpose of sowing indigo ; and there is not sufficient land left for grain cultivation. It is further said, that the orders passed by the Magistrate of that place in a certain case greatly displeased the cultivators, but that the magistrate subsequently showed a desire to please them. The writer continues :—“ In the *Buttia* Zemindaree, too, the settlement that has been made has caused much discontent among the *ryots*, and they intend to appeal to the Lieutenant-Governor.” The writer adds, that any more complaints in this quarter will be duly noticed.

The *Punjabee Ukar*, of the 31st of January, publishes an article, in which he contrasts the Durbars formerly held by the Mogul rulers of Hindoostan, with those of the present day. The writer declares, that the former were in every way superior ; and that, among other things, the degree of respect due to each *Durbaree* was better observed, and even the presents more freely given. “ The chances of disappointment to those who attended, were few, for all had their hopes realized—the fact being that people were richly rewarded in these Durbars ; whereas in the Durbars of the present day, the manners and customs all appear changed, because in the Durbars of the English, the splendour of arrangements and the dignity due

to kings is not so much observed ; and the same simplicity of manner, which is so characteristic of the English people, will be found even here. They look upon splendid arrangements as mere useless expense, and think that extravagance will not work beneficially. One thing is worthy of notice, which is, that the English have wisely kept up a custom which the Hindoostanees were strangers to : and that is, that in these Durbars, the Native Chiefs have mingled one with the other, and their dignity and respect been considered equal. This is most becoming and proper, and much approved of. Formerly, people used to fill their pockets with money when returning from a Durbar ; now it is not so ; some may ask :—‘what kind of a Durbar ? do you take it about under your arms ? Have the English any kind of a Durbar, for one goes to it empty-handed, and returns from it in the same condition. If the hands are warmed, we shall be able to understand the word Durbar.’ Those who reason thus, make a mistake ; they ought to understand, that even in former times, the Durbars of kings were as they are now in Hindoostanee *reasuts*—only opportunities for those who could mix themselves up with the officers of the State ; they alone reaped benefit, while the most deserving remained disappointed. And of course there were advantages to be gained, but they were confined within the four walls of the Durbar ; and when a king was not visible, those Provinces which were controlled by agents, if looked into, would be found anything but prosperous ; it would be found, in fact, that instead of flowers, there were thorns there.”

The *Gwalior Gazette*, of the 26th of January, the *Abhayat Hind*, of the 1st of February, the *Khair-khwah Punjab*, of the 1st, and the *Meerut Gazette*, of the 1st, do not demand special notice.

The *Kaleid Ummed*, of the 1st of February, mentions that many complaints concerning the Nawab of Rampore have

been made to the British Government, by some of the Talookdars and Begums. The writer says, "orders have now been sent to the Commissioner of Rohilkund, to enquire into and send up a report without delay. But," he adds, "this has caused much surprise, because the arrangements and rule of the Nawab are considered superior to those of all other Mahomedan chiefs. It appears as if enemies and rebels have done this; and such people ought to be punished in such a manner as would deter others from following their example."

The *Koh-i-Noor*, of the 1st of February, under the heading "Balkh and Khotun," publishes the following:—"It is said that Balkh and Khotun have both been cleared out by Shere Ali Khan, and Sirdar Abdool Rhyman Khan has taken possession of them. Shere Ali has gone to Herat, and now only two rival enemies are left in Cabul, *viz.*, Azim Khan and Abdool Rhyman Khan; and if Azim Khan would but make over the *guddee* to Abdul Rhyman Khan, and Shere Ali remain content with Herat, peace would be at once restored in Affghanistan."

The *Noor-ool Ubsar*, of the 1st of February, does not contain anything of importance.

The *Sadik-ool Ukbar*, of the 1st of February, refers to the protection afforded by Government to Mahomedans proceeding on pilgrimages to Mecca. The writer considers that this is a great benefit conferred, and feels sure that the Mahomedans of Hind will be greatly pleased to hear of it.

The *Ukmil-ool Ukbar*, of the 5th of February, does not contain anything of importance.

The *Oude Ukbar*, of the 4th of February, publishes the following, under the heading "Ghuznee." "The *hakim* of this place is said to have given orders to take the census of the population of the city; so that out of each house one man may be taken to serve in the army, upon Rs. 8 per month, to be paid at Ghuznee. When this was done, 4000 men were

soon collected, and were all sent on to Cabul, and provided with horses by the Ameer ; with these people, went a force of *Kazibashes*, under command of Mahomed Ishmail Khan, son of the Candahar chief ; and this force will be sent on to Candahar. The Khan of Khelat has sent a letter to the Ameer of Cabul, stating that he also has 2000 or 3000 men ready to aid Ishmail Khan, when he arrives ; as also some Rs. 30,000 or Rs. 40,000. ' Do not be concerned ; the *ryots* are all grateful to you ; and up to to-day no complaints have been made against you.' When this letter was read, a reply, thanking the Khan was written ; and a *khillut* was sent by the Cabul Ameer to that chief."

The *Ukbar Unjumun*, of the 1st of February, and the *Rafa Khaliack*, of the 1st, do not contain anything calling for particular attention.

The *Juhatoor*, of the 5th of February, under the heading " Benares," mentions the case of one Chunnoo Lall, a silk merchant, who has given himself out as insolvent ; and the writer takes the opportunity of offering a few remarks upon bankrupts generally ; to the effect that whenever any loss is incurred in trade, the traders should be forced to make it known, " so that the greater evil of bankruptcy may be avoided." The writer hopes, that the *hakim* will direct the favor of a look into this.

Under the heading " Habits of Ease," it is said that in Scinde, whenever the *hakims* choose, they close their Courts, and grant holidays ; and even at the time of writing, it is said that the Courts have been closed for a week's holiday.

The *Sholatoor*, of the 4th of February, after extracts from English papers, publishes the following, under the heading " Turkistan." " A friend states, that a fight has taken place between Shere Ali and Abdool Rhyman. Some say that the Russians are aiding Shere Ali ; others say the Persians : but this fight proved that this Ameer had no one to aid him." The editor says, that " until the war is at an end, no one can say

he does not receive aid. After a defeat, if the fighting is at an end, then we can say whether there is aid or not. If Ameer Shere Ali Khan tires and gives in, and the Sirdar Abdool Rhyman Khan takes possession of all Turkistan and Herat, then, of course, there will be some reason for entertaining the idea that no aid is given by Russia, but up to this time, Shere Ali Khan is ready to fight it out. In our opinion, the cause of no Russian force being with Shere Ali is the treaty between Russia and the British Government, which stipulates that there shall be no fighting about the Herat country ; and if this treaty is set aside, they alone are to blame. Now, the orders of the British Government are, that if the Russians take possession of Herat and Afghanistan, then the brave English will fight them ; for this reason, the Russian Government does not assist Shere Ali publicly, but sends money and munitions of war to him ; and this is why the Ameer Azim Khan wrote to the Governor-General that the Russians had, against the treaty, given aid to Shere Ali Khan. Now, the Government ought to look to this breaking of the treaty, and aid Azim Khan ; for by private letters from tradesmen, and both English and native papers, it is proved that the Russians have aided Shere Ali." The editor adds, " publicly, the readiness of our English Government to fight has greatly impeded the advance of the Russians beyond Bokhara ; and if for the same reason the aid has been denied Ameer Shere Ali it can be so, but kings with great ambition do not do such things, for we have not heard this of them.

The *Rohilkund Ukbar*, of the 1st of February, publishes the following, under the heading "Rough Translation of Rules and Laws". "The object of publishing their rules and laws in the *Gazette* by the Government, is to ascertain, before they pass Council, whether they are likely to prove injurious to the interests of the people of the country ; but it is generally pretty evident,—first, that the period between the publication and the passing of the law, is short ; secondly ; that its good or

evil results are not cared for by the Hindoostanees ; as with many the feeling is, that when it comes into force it will be looked to ; while others say, ' what interest have we in it that we should discuss its merits, and trouble ourselves needlessly ? those who are interested in it will see to it.' But when the law is put in force, then the wail and cry is given ; and then the Members of Council begin to think how to prevent the cancelling of that law. Then, the first silence on the part of the public, and the short time allowed to consider the merits of the new law, prove their own error ; for although many districts can boast of societies, where meetings take place, and the good or evil effects of such laws may be made known and considered ; still there are many districts where such societies have not been established, and the *Reahées* of such places do not care to establish them. It would therefore be a good plan, if the Government, when proclaiming any new law, would first take the opinions of the *Reahées* (Chiefs) &c., of each district, through the district officers, and make the same known to Government, as was done concerning the advisability of putting a stop to large gatherings at fairs," &c.

The *Nujm-ool Ukbar*, of the 5th of February, and the *Oordoo Delhi Gazette*, of the 8th, do not contain anything that demands special notice.

The *Lawrence Gazette*, of the 7th of February, after extracts from other papers, refers to the case of the Tonk Nawab. The writer says, that a friend of this paper sends the following :— " Mr. Connor, a vakeel of the High Court, Calcutta, through a friend, promises the editor of the *Lawrence Gazette* that he will get the Nawab off, because there are many irregularities in his case." The Editor thinks that if the agents of the *Reasut* would seek counsel of him, it would be well.

The *Allygurh Institute*, of the 7th of February, the *Bhid-dia Bhilas*, of the 1st, the *Guain Purdain*, of the 9th December, and the *Benares Gazette*, of the 9th of January, do not require special notice.

The following vernacular newspapers have been examined  
in this Report, viz. :—

No.	NAME OF PAPER.	WHERE PUBLISHED.	DATE.	WHEN RECEIVED.
1	<i>Gwalior Gazette</i> ,	... Gwalior,	1868. Jany. 19th	1868. Feby. 2nd
2	<i>Bhiddia Bilas</i> ,	... Jummoo,	" 24th	" 2nd
3	<i>Kaleid Ummed</i> ,	... Lahore,	" 25th	" 2nd
4	<i>Allygurh Institute</i> ,	... Allygurh,	" 31st	" 2nd
5	<i>Lawrence Gazette</i> ,	... Meerut,	" 31st	" 2nd
6	<i>Moofeed-ool Anam</i> ,	... Futtehgurh,	" 30th	" 3rd
7	<i>Nusseem Jounpore</i> ,	... Jounpore,	" 28th	" 4th
8	<i>Suhale Punjab</i> ,	... Rawul Pindee,	" 29th	" 4th
9	<i>Ukbar Alum</i> ,	... Meerut,	" 30th	" 4th
10	<i>Adebe Hind</i> ,	... Dehli,	" 31st	" 4th
11	<i>Rahnoomai Punjab</i> ,	... Sealkote,	" 31st	" 5th
12	<i>Bhiddia Bilas</i> ,	... Jummoo,	" 24th	" 6th
13	<i>Ukbar Rampore</i> ,	... Rampore,	" 24th	" 6th
14	<i>Ditto</i> ,	... Ditto,	" 31st	" 6th
15	<i>Mujm-ool Bharain</i> ,	... Loodiana,	" 30th	" 7th
16	<i>Punjabee Ukbar</i> ,	... Lahore,	" 31st	" 4th
17	<i>Gwalior Gazette</i> ,	... Gwalior,	" 26th	" 8th
18	<i>Abahayat Hind</i> ,	... Agra,	Feby. 1st	" 3rd
19	<i>Khair-khwah Punjab</i> ,	... Goojranwalla,	" 1st	" 4th
20	<i>Meerut Gazette</i> ,	... Meerut,	" 1st	" 4th
21	<i>Kaleid Ummed</i> ,	... Lahore,	" 1st	" 5th
22	<i>Koh-i-Noor</i> ,	... Ditto,	" 1st	" 5th
23	<i>Noor-ool Ubsar</i> ,	... Alkahabad,	" 1st	" 6th
24	<i>Sadik-ool Ukbar</i> ,	... Bhawulpore,	" 1st	" 6th
25	<i>Ukmil-ool Ukbar</i> ,	... Dehli,	" 5th	" 7th
26	<i>Oude Ukbar</i> ,	... Lucknow,	" 4th	" 7th
27	<i>Ukbar Unjumun</i> ,	... Ditto,	" 1st	" 7th
28	<i>Rafa Khaliack</i> ,	... Shahjehanpore,	" 1st	" 7th
29	<i>Julwatoor</i> ,	... Meerut,	" 5th	" 7th
30	<i>Sholatoor</i> ,	... Cawnpore,	" 4th	" 7th
31	<i>Rohilcund Ukbar</i> ,	... Moradabad,	" 1st	" 7th
32	<i>Nujm-ool Ukbar</i> ,	... Meerut,	" 5th	" 7th
33	<i>Oordoo Delhi Gazette</i> ,	... Agra,	" 8th	" 8th
34	<i>Lawrence Gazette</i> ,	... Meerut,	" 7th	" 9th
35	<i>Allygurh Institute</i> ,	... Allygurh,	" 7th	" 9th
36	<i>Bhiddia Bilas</i> ,	... Jummoo,	" 1st	" 9th
37	<i>Benares Gazette</i> ,	... Benares,	Jany. 9th	" 5th
38	<i>Guain Purdain</i> ,	... Lahore,	1867. Decr. 11th	" 9th

*N. B.—The Benares Gazette appears in the Nagree character, instead of in Oordoo, in which character it was formerly published.*

(True translation.)

GEORGE WAGENTREIBER,

Government Translator of Selections from Vernacular

Newspapers, Upper India.

DELHI :  
The 29th February, 1868. }

